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PATENT CLAIMS.

1. Method for transferring longline hooks with bait (5) from a baiting machine (6) to a longline container (12), where each hook is fastened to the longline (3) via a snood (4), and the longline is set up to be arranged in a longline receptacle (37) in the longline container (12) while the hook/bait (5) is arranged in a hook/bait receptacle (16) adjacent to the longline receptacle (37), characterised in that simultaneously to the longline (3) being conducted mainly horizontally from the baiting machine via a conductor disc and down into the longline receptacle (37), the hook with bait (5) is transferred in an initial manoeuvre into a holder (8), and the holder is transferred mainly horizontally to an end position directly above the longline container (12), and then an ejector device (15) transfers the hook with bait (5) out of the holder (8) and downwardly into the hook/bait receptacle (16) of the longline container (12).
2. Method according to claim 1, characterised in that the hook/bait is pulled into the holder (8) through a first conductor casing (7) permanently fixed to the baiting machine (6), where the snood (4) runs through a slot in said first conductor casing (7), and the exit of the hook/bait (5) from the conductor casing (7) is level with the corresponding entrance to the holder (8).
3. Method according to claims 1 - 2, characterised in that when the holder (8) is in its end position above the longline container (12), an ejector device (15) pushes the hook/bait (5) out of the holder and downwardly through a second conductor casing (13) into the bait receptacle (16).
4. Method according to any of preceding claims, characterised in that the holder (8) movement to said end position is provided by operating a piston/cylinder unit, the holder (8) being assembled to the piston rod.
5. Method according to any of preceding claims, characterised in that the movement of the holder is assisted by the tension on the snood (4) via the longline (3) running over the conductor disc (1).
6. Method according to any of preceding claims, characterised in that the hook/bait (5) is placed in the holder (8) by pulling the snood through one of the

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vertical, run-through, straight-through slots in the peripheral wall (22) of the holder, but through which the hook/bait (5) cannot pass.

7. Method according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in that  
5 a holder with open bottom is used and that the hook/bait is pushed vertically out and down through the open holder bottom, as the snood is pushed down and out of the slots (17,27).

8. Method according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in that  
10 the hook/bait (5) and the snood (4) are transferred to the longline container from the holder via the second conductor casing (13) which involves vertical, run-through slots (18, 28) and a duct, for which the cross-section corresponds to the cross-section of the slots (17,27) and the chamber (26), respectively, of the holder (8).

9. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in  
15 using an indexable rotating table so that the longline container (12) rotates round to a new bait cell (16<sup>1</sup>) once a certain number of hooks with bait (5) have been transferred to the bait receptacle (16<sup>1</sup>).

20 10. Device for transferring longline hooks with bait (5) from a baiting machine (6) to a longline container (12), where each hook is fastened to the longline (3) via a snood (4), and the longline is set up to be arranged in a longline receptacle (37) in the longline container (12) while the hook/bait (5) is  
25 arranged to be placed in a hook/bait receptacle (16) adjacent to the longline receptacle (37), characterised in that the device comprises:

30 a holder (8) to capture the hook with bait (5) from the baiting machine, said holder (8) being arranged to be conducted mainly in a horizontal direction to an end position, directly above the longline container (12), and  
an ejector device (15) to transfer the hook with bait (5) out of the holder (8) and downwardly into the hook/bait receptacle (16) of the longline container (12).

35 11. Device according to claim 10, characterised in that the holder (8) for the hook/bait (5) is assembled to the piston rod (11) of a piston/cylinder unit which is arranged to move the holder (8) to said end position.

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